

CANNON BUILDING 861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203 DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

# STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES: BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Thursday, February 14, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room B, Cannon Bldg, 861 Silver Lake Blvd Dover, DE 19904

MINUTES APPROVED 05/09/2013

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Eric Wahl, Professional Member, President, Presiding Jeffrey Seemans, Professional Member, Secretary Rachel Dunning, Public Member, Treasurer William Bullock, Public Member Jeffrey Clark, Professional Member

# **DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT**

Bryan Smith, Deputy Attorney General Kay Warren, Deputy Director Jessica Williams, Administrative Specialist II

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Wahl called the meeting to order 9:00 a.m.

#### **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes for the November 8, 2012 meeting. Mr. Clark made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dunning, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion unanimously carried.

Board introductions took place for the benefit of Bryan Smith, the new Deputy Attorney General for the Board.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### Review Draft of Spring 2013 Newsletter

The Board reviewed the proposed articles for the spring 2013 newsletter. Mr. Seemans moved, seconded by Ms. Dunning, to approve the welcoming message with corrections, the sustainability article, and the CLARB annual meeting update with corrections. Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Wahl suggested that the link for the 2013 ASLA conference be placed in the newsletter. Mr. Seemans also suggested that the dates for the LARE exam be listed within the newsletter. Mr.

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Seemans moved, seconded by Ms. Dunning to include the additions to the newsletter. Motion unanimously carried.

# <u>Discussion Regarding Legislative Initiatives</u>

Mr. Wahl advised the Board that previous statutory proposal removed the secretary and treasurer positions. It was previously decided that the Board will not go forward with changing the definition of landscape architecture.

Ms. Warren addressed the Board and suggested that the secretary position stay within the statute. Mr. Wahl moved, seconded by Mr. Clark, to propose that the new officer positions on the Board be President, Vice President, and Secretary. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Warren advised the Board that she will send the bill to the administration.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

## Ratification of Application for Licensure by Reciprocity – Nathaniel Burns

Ms. Dunning made a motion, seconded by Mr. Seemans, to ratify the application for licensure by reciprocity for Nathaniel Burns. Motion unanimously carried.

# Ratification of Application for Licensure by Reciprocity – Brian Leff

Ms. Dunning made a motion, seconded by Mr. Seemans, to ratify the application for licensure by reciprocity for Brian Leff. Motion unanimously carried.

## Ratification of Certificate of Authorization – Niles Bolton Associates, Inc.

Mr. Seemans made a motion, seconded by Mr. Clark to ratify the application for the certificate of authorization for Niles Bolton Associates, Inc. Motion unanimously carried.

# Review Request for Extension of Continuing Education – Stuart Ortel

The Board reviewed the request for an extension of continuing education for Stuart Ortel. Mr. Wahl moved, seconded by Mr. Seemans approve Mr. Ortel's request with the following conditions:

- He is to renew his license, and pay the late fee within 60 days (April 2, 2013) in accordance to Board Rule 6.1:
- After Mr. Ortel renews his license, he has 12 months, beginning February 14, 2013, to accrue 20 CEU's, in addition to the CEU's required for the current biannual period, pursuant to Board Rule 7.11
- If he does not renew of his license within 60 days, his license will expire.
- He is to submit documentation of all CEU's obtained no later than the end of the 12 month period to the Board. He will be selected for audit for the next renewal period to determine the applicability of all CEU's.
- If the 20 CEU's are not completed and documented to the Board within the 12 month period, beginning February 14, 2013, his license will expire.

Motion unanimously carried.

Discussion Regarding Aligning Continuing Education Schedule with Pennsylvania

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Mr. Seemans advised the Board that this came to light because a licensee (who is licensed in both Delaware and Pennsylvania) contacted him regarding a continuing education course he was interested in taking. The course was scheduled to begin in January and the licensee wanted to apply the credits to the next renewal period. According to CLARB's website, Pennsylvania licenses expire May 31 of odd years.

Mr. Smith advised the Board that according to <u>Del</u>. <u>C.</u> 24 § 210 (b), the board does not determine when the biannual renewal period is, as that is for the Division of Professional Regulation to decide.

Ms. Williams advised the Board that members cannot contact one another regarding Board business outside of the normal meetings.

Ms. Williams will contact the licensee who contacted Mr. Seemans regarding continuing education. The licensee will be advised that according to Board Rule 7.6, the Board will consider any reasonable special request from individual licensees for continuing education credits and procedures.

# Letter from James Collins Re: Executive Order 36

Mr. Smith explained the reasoning of Executive Order 36 to the Board. Mr. Wahl suggested that the Board members review the rules and regulations and be prepared for discussion during the May 9, 2013 meeting. At that time, the Board will determine if changes need to be made to the rules and regulations.

## **Complaint Status**

Mr. Seemans was assigned to Case 24-01-12.

# <u>Discussion Regarding Post-Renewal Continuing Education Audit</u>

Mr. Bullock moved, seconded by Ms. Dunning to select 20% of all licensees and 100% of all late renewals for the post-renewal continuing education audit. Motion unanimously carried.

#### Pre-Sunset Information Gathering

Mr. Seemans suggested that the Board be proactive in regards to being reviewed by the Sunset Committee. He stated that while previously serving on the Board, the Board was selected to undergo review by the Sunset Committee, and it was not a pleasant experience. Mr. Seemans suggested that the Board be proactive in regards to preparing for the next Sunset review. Mr. Seemans circulated his suggestions for preparation to the Board. He requested that the Board members review his suggestions and be prepared for any discussion during the May 9, 2013 Board meeting.

Ms. Williams advised the Board that the Division of Professional Regulation handles the majority of the duties set forth by the Sunset Committee, when a Board is selected for review. Ms. Williams also informed the Board that at this time, the Board has not been selected for review.

## Election of Officers

Ms. Dunning moved, seconded by Mr. Clark, to reelect Mr. Wahl as President. Motion unanimously carried. Mr. Wahl accepted the nomination.

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Ms. Dunning moved, seconded by Mr. Wahl, to reelect Mr. Seemans as Secretary. Motion unanimously carried. Mr. Seemans accepted the nomination.

Mr. Wahl moved, seconded by Mr. Clark, to reelect Ms. Dunning as Treasurer. Motion unanimously carried. Ms. Dunning accepted the nomination.

# Other Business before the Board (For Discussion Only)

Mr. Seemans voiced his concerns about licensees attesting to completing the required continuing education while renewing their license online and not having to submit it unless they are selected for audit.

Mr. Seemans also suggested that if a licensee is over the age of 62, they should not be required to complete the entire amount of continuing education as set forth in the rules and regulations.

Mr. Seemans stated that he had a conference call with CLARB and Delaware's renewal fees are outrageous compared to other states. Mr. Seeman's provided the Board with other states' renewal fees. He is requesting documentation as to how the fees are set as well as how they are being spent. He feels as though lower fees will attract more licensees.

Lastly, Mr. Seemans would like to have information from CLARB to see what information is being covered on the LARE. He stated that CLARB has a video on the website and requested that the Board review the video during their May 9, 2013 meeting. He also advised the Board that CLARB's spring meeting is being held in Scottsdale, Arizona.

## <u>Correspondence</u>

There was no correspondence.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

# **Next Meeting Date**

The Board will hold the next meeting on May 9, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., in Conference Room "B" of the Cannon Bldg., 861 Silver Lake Blvd., Dover, Delaware.

## **Adjournment**

Mr. Seemans made a motion, seconded by Mr. Clark, to adjourn. There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica M. Williams

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Administrative Specialist II

**Board of Landscape Architects**